

In the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 1-56 without prejudice. Add new Claims 57-85.

1.-56. (Cancelled)

57. (New) A curable composition which comprises the following two components as essential components:

(I) a vinyl polymer, which has at least one crosslinkable silyl group represented by general formula (1) at the terminus:



wherein each of R^1 and R^2 represents an alkyl group containing 1 to 20 carbon atoms, an aryl group containing 6 to 20 carbon atoms, an aralkyl group containing 7 to 20 carbon atoms, or a triorganosiloxy group represented by $(R')_3SiO-$, wherein R' represents a monovalent hydrocarbon group containing 1 to 20 carbon atoms, and three R 's may be identical to or different from one another, and when two or more R^1 's or R^2 's exist, these may be identical to or different from one another; Y represents a hydroxyl group or a hydrolyzable group, and when two or more Y 's exist, these may be identical to or different from one another; a represents 0, 1, 2, or 3, b represents 0, 1, or 2, and m represents an integer between 0 and 19, which satisfies $a + mb \geq 1$; and

(III) an amine compound,

wherein:

said vinyl polymer (I) has a monomer containing a methyl ester group as an essential constituent unit; or

said curable composition further comprises a compound (II) having a methyl ester group, wherein said compound (II) is not the same as vinyl polymer (I).

58. (New) The curable composition according to claim 57, which comprises the following two components as essential components:

a vinyl polymer (I), which has at least one crosslinkable silyl group of general formula (1) as defined in claim 1 at the terminus and a monomer containing a methyl ester group as an essential constituent unit; and

(III) an amine compound.

59. (New) The curable composition according to claim 58, wherein the vinyl polymer (I) is (meth) acrylic polymer.

60. (New) The curable composition according to claim 58, wherein the monomer containing a methyl ester group which constitutes the vinyl polymer (I) is methyl acrylate.

61. (New) The curable composition according to claim 58, wherein the monomer containing a methyl ester group which constitutes the vinyl polymer (I) is methyl methacrylate.

62. (New) The curable composition according to claim 57, wherein the vinyl polymer (I) is in a liquid state at 23°C.

63. (New) The curable composition according to claim 57, wherein the vinyl polymer (I) is synthesized by living radical polymerization.

64. (New) The curable composition according to claim 57, wherein the vinyl polymer (I) is synthesized by atom transfer radical polymerization.

65. (New) The curable composition according to claim 57, wherein the vinyl polymer (I) has a ratio of weight average molecular weight to number average molecular weight of less than 1.8, the ratio being determined by gel permeation chromatography.

66. (New) A curable composition according to claim 57, which comprises the following components as essential components:

a vinyl polymer (I) having at least one crosslinkable silyl group represented' by the general formula (I) as defined in claim 1 at the terminus;

a compound (II) having a methyl ester group, where compound (II) having a methyl ester group is not the same as Vinyl polymer (I); and

an amine compound (III).

67. (New) The curable composition according to claim 66, wherein the vinyl polymer (I) is an acrylic polymer.

68. (New) The curable composition according to claim 67, wherein the vinyl polymer (I) is an acrylic ester polymer.

69. (New) The curable composition according to claim 66, wherein the compound (II) having a methyl ester group is not a polymer.

70. (New) The curable composition according to anyone of claim 66, wherein the carbon atom at the α -position of the methyl ester group contained in the compound (II) having a methyl group, and which is not the same as vinyl polymer (I), is primary or secondary.

71. (New) The curable composition according to claim 66, wherein the compound (II) having a methyl ester group, and which is not the same as vinyl polymer (I), is a dimethyl ester of a dicarboxylic acid.

72. (New) The curable composition according to claim 66, wherein the compound (II) having a methyl ester group is selected from the group consisting of:

dimethyl malonate, dimethyl succinate, dimethyl glutarate, dimethyl adipate, dimethyl sebacate, methyl acetate, methyl propionate, methyl butyrate, methyl valerate, methyl caprylate, methyl caprate, methyl taurate, methyl myristate, methyl palmitate, methyl stearate, methyl oleate, methyl ricinoleate, and coconut fatty acid methyl ester.

73. (New) The curable composition according to claim 66, wherein the compound (II) having a methyl ester group, and which is not the same as vinyl polymer (I), is a polymer containing a monomer having a methyl ester group as a constituent unit.

74. (New) The curable composition according to claim 73, wherein the monomer having a methyl ester group is methyl acrylate.

75. (New) The curable composition according to claim 73, wherein the compound having a methyl ester group is a copolymer containing a monomer having a methyl ester group as a constituent, and that among ester groups contained in monomers other than the monomer having a methyl ester group, those having an alkoxy group that is primary and contains 5 or more carbon atoms make up 80% or less at a molar ratio with respect to the methyl ester groups.

76. (New) The curable composition according to claim 73, wherein the compound having a methyl ester group is a copolymer containing a monomer having a methyl ester group as a constituent, and that among ester groups contained in monomers other than the monomer

having a methyl ester group, those having an alkoxy group that is primary and contains 2 to 4 carbon atoms make up 400% or less at a molar ratio with respect to the methyl ester groups.

77. (New) The curable composition according to claim 57, wherein the curable composition is a one-component curable composition.

78. (New) The curable composition according to claim 57, which comprises a condensation curing catalyst as an essential component.

79. (New) The curable composition according to claim 78, wherein the condensation curing catalyst is a tin curing catalyst.

80. (New) The curable composition according to claim 57, wherein the amino group contained in the amine compound (III) is a primary amine.

81. (New) The curable composition according to claim 57, wherein the amine compound (III) is a silane coupling agent.

82. (New) The curable composition according to claim 57, further comprising a polyether polymer having at least one crosslinkable silyl group, the crosslinkable silyl group being represented by the general formula (1) as defined in claim 1.

83. (New) A sealant, wherein the curable composition according to claim 57 is used.

84. (New) A liquid gasket, wherein the curable composition according to claim 57 is used.

85. (New) An adhesive, wherein the curable composition according to claim 57 is used.